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Shillaber, Benjamin P., Collection, 1838-1890

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Shillaber, Benjamin P., Collection, MS 152

Benjamin P. Shillaber Collection

Collection Number	MS 152
Title	The Benjamin P. Shillaber Collection
Name and Location of Repository	Pittsburg State University, Special Collections & University Archives, Pittsburg, Kansas
Dates	1838 – 1890
Collection Size	.4 linear foot
Creator	Unknown (likely PSU professor John Q. Reed, and Gene DeGruson, for Reed's book on Shillaber)

Scope and Content Benjamin Penhallow Shillaber was a writer and humorist. This collections includes photocopies and transcriptions of personal and professional correspondence, biographical material, journal pages, and drafts of some of his works.

Access Restrictions This collection is open for access

Languages English

Biographical Note Benjamin Penhallow Shillaber was born in Portsmouth, New Hampshire on July 12, 1814. He left school early and worked as an apprentice in several New Hampshire newspapers. He moved to Boston in the 1830s, and then became an editor with the *Boston Daily Post* and *Saturday Evening Gazette*. For the *Post*, Shillaber created a character named Mrs. Ruth Partington. In 1836, he moved to Demarara, Guiana for health reasons, where he worked at the *Royal Gazette* for two years. He returned to the United States in 1838. Upon he returned, he married and had eight children, with four of them surviving past childhood. In 1851, Shillaber became the founding editor of the *The Carpet-Bag* with his business partner Charles G. Halpine. Though it only lasted for two years, the magazine earned a national reputation and gained contributions from humorist like George Derby. Shillaber died in Chelsea, Massachusetts in 1890.

Series This collection has three series:
Correspondence, Biographical Materials, and Writings by Shillaber.

The **Correspondence** series contains personal and private letters. This series is arranged chronologically.

The **Biographical Materials** series consist of a brief biography of Shillaber, and pages from a journal, likely to have been Shillaber's.

The **Writings by Shillaber** series includes transcriptions of rough drafts of Shillaber's articles, and a bibliography of Shillaber's publications.

Shillaber, Benjamin P., Collection, MS 152

Folder List

Correspondence

- f. 1 1838 – 1879
- f. 2 1880 – 1890; Undated

Biographical Materials

- f. 3 Biography of Shillaber
Pages that are more than likely from his journal

Writings by Shillaber

- f. 4 Transcriptions of rough drafts of Shillaber's articles
A list of Shillaber's publications
A story taken from a compilation of short stories
Quotes by Benjamin Franklin